

"That is not said right," said the Caterpillar.

"Not *quite* right, I'm afraid," said Alice, timidly: "some of the words have got altered."

"It is wrong from beginning to end," said the Caterpillar, decidedly; and there was silence for some minutes.

The Caterpillar was the first to speak.

"What size do you want to be?" it asked.

"Oh, I'm not particular as to size," Alice hastily replied; "only one doesn't like changing so often, you know."

"I *don't* know," said the Caterpillar.

Alice said nothing: she had never been so much contradicted in all her life before, and she felt that she was losing her temper.

"Are you content now?" said the Caterpillar.

"Well, I should like to be a *little* larger, Sir, if you wouldn't mind," said Alice: "three inches is such a wretched height to be."

"It is a very good height indeed!" said the Caterpillar angrily, rearing itself upright as it spoke (it was exactly three inches high).

"But I'm not used to it!" pleaded poor Alice in a piteous tone. And she thought to herself: "I wish the creatures wouldn't be so easily offended!"

"You'll get used to it in time," said the Cater-

pillar; and it put the hood on its head and began smoking again.

This time Alice waited a long time before she began to speak again. In a moment the Caterpillar took the hookah out of its mouth, yawned once or twice, and got down off the mushroom on to the grass, merely remarking that the smoke will make you grow taller or shorter, as it may be. "The smoke will make you grow taller or shorter," it said.

"One side of *what*?" thought Alice to herself.

"Of the mushroom," she said, as if she had asked it aloud. The Caterpillar went away as if she had asked it aloud, and she saw no more of it.

Alice remained looking at the mushroom for a minute, then she remembered that she had two sides to it; and she found this a very curious idea. However, at last she stretched herself as far as they would go, and she held the edge with each hand.

"And now which is which?" she thought, and nibbled a little of the mushroom to try the effect. The next moment she was blown under-neath her chin: